

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: KINGSLEY RICHARD CHIN

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Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING SPINAL VERTEBRAE

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EXAMINER: CANDICE C. STOKES

Honorable Commissioner for Patents

P.O.Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Office communication concerning the above mentioned application of October 6, 2006 Applicant respectfully submits the following response.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Formal Drawing for FIG. 9 is attached as a separate sheet at the end of this response.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.